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National Awards Given to NSU and VAMC Staff

L-R: Front Row—Dr. Isaac Moorehead, Dir. CT, NSU; Dr. Dennis Smith, Chief of Staff; Mr. James Chappell; Dr. Donald Taylor, Dean; Ms. Kim Bero; Michael Woodhouse, Dir. Kinesio-Therapy Laboratory; Mr. Robert Morris, Dir., VAMC.
L-R: Back Row—Dr. Keith Palmer, Chief RMS; Mr. Robert Crist, Chief CT; Dr. Harrison Wilson, President, NSU.

Awards for the American Corrective Therapy Association were presented by R. E. Morris, Center Director, to Kim Bero and James Chappell, Staff Corrective Therapists, in a ceremony at the VA Medical Center on September 20, 1984. Mr. Chappell received the "Annual Corrective Therapy Award" and Kim Bero received the "Presidential Citation." Both were cited for their work with the Virginia Society of Corrective Therapy in liaison work and fostering their profession within Virginia. Both therapists also received a "Superior Performance Award" from Dr. Dennis B. Smith, Chief of Staff, for their outstanding work as Staff Corrective Therapists for the past year.

Dr. Harrison Wilson, President of Norfolk State University, presented the "Carl Haven Young Award" to Dr. Donald Taylor, Dean, School of Allied Health, NSU, for his outstanding work in promoting the Vocation of Corrective Therapy within Virginia. Michael Woodhouse, Assistant Professor of Corrective Therapy at NSU was given a "Presidential Citation" for his work with the Virginia Society and State Regulatory Boards. The Veterans Administration Medical Center and Norfolk State University have a 17 year history of training of Corrective Therapists that dates back to 1967. The Degree Program for CT's was expanded in 1977 with new curriculum and intern program expanded to 1000 hours. The VA Medical Center is one of the training areas for intern students.

Corrective Therapists work on medical referral and make use of bodily exercise to promote recovery from disease and disability as well as to maintain health and prevent loss of function. Their patients range from paraplegics to people with mental illness.

They have been likened to the ancient Greek Aesculepians, who founded the idea of health and fitness through moderation of habits and the use of regular exercise, a concept that is being rediscovered in America.

This is an excellent example of how a government health agency can collaborate with community educational institutions in health professional education. The training of valuable and scarce health professionals enriches the community in many ways; as well as servicing the health of veteran patients in the VA system, graduates have joined rehabilitation centers, wellness programs, and vocational restoration agencies.